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first obtained the birds, and Lomita Ranch, where I secured the greatest number, are situated only eight miles apart on the Texas side of the river. In this locality the heavy timber is near the river, and north of it the chaparral extends for a distance of about fifteen miles; next, still northward, lies a desert of sand reaching more than fifty miles until it meets the strong vegetable growth of the valley of the Nueces River. The Wrens of this group found in the valley of the Nueces are typical *T. ludovicianus*, as also are those found along the Gulf coast from Corpus Christi to Galveston. *Berlandieri* seems to be resident in the timber tracts of higher altitudes, and I should hardly expect to find it nearer the United States than Monterey. *Lomitensis* will probably reach into Mexico only so far as extends the heavy timber of the lower Rio Grande. I have named the bird from the place where I found it to be most abundant.

My thanks are due Mr. Allen of the American Museum and Mr. Ridgway of the National Museum for the loan of specimens.

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## SECOND SUPPLEMENT TO THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION CHECK-LIST OF NORTH AMERICAN BIRDS.

THE MATTER of publishing an annual supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Check-List of North American Birds was referred by the Union to the Council at the meeting of the Union held in Washington in 1888. At a meeting of the Council held in New York City, Nov. 11, 1889, the Council by unanimous vote requested the Committee on Publications to prepare a report on the species, subspecies, and changes of nomenclature proposed during the year (Nov. 1888 to Nov. 1889), to be published as the Second Supplement to the American Ornithologists' Union Check-List, in 'The Auk,' for January, 1890.

In accordance with this authority the Committee on Publications held a meeting for this purpose, at the American Museum

of Natural History, on the day following the close of the Seventh Congress of the Union, and formulated the following report. A few questions were deferred for want of the necessary data to enable the Committee to reach satisfactory decisions.

In accordance with the wishes of the Council, the Committee, in the case of the rejection of proposed changes or additions, gives its reasons for considering them inadmissible.

The present supplement therefore consists of I, *Additions*; II, *Eliminations*; III, *Changes of Nomenclature*; IV, *Species and subspecies considered as not entitled to recognition*. The numbers at the left of the name facilitate collation with the Check-List. The interpolated species and subspecies are numbered in accordance with the provisions made therefor in the Code of Nomenclature. (See page 14, last paragraph.)

J. A. ALLEN.  
WILLIAM BREWSTER.  
ELLIOTT COUES.  
ROBERT RIDGWAY.  
JOHN H. SAGE.

## I. ADDITIONS.

### 134 a. *Anas fulvigula maculosa* (SENN.).

**Mottled Duck.**

*Anas maculosa* SENNETT, Auk, VI, July, 1889, 263.

[B 577, *part*, C 489, *part*, R 602, *part*, C 708, *part*.]

HAB. Eastern Texas and north to Kansas.

### 292 b. *Oreortyx pictus confinis* ANTHONY.

**San Pedro Partridge.**

*Oreortyx picta confinis* ANTHONY, Proc. Cal. Ac. Sci. 2d. ser. II, Oct. 11, 1889, 74.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

HAB. San Pedro Mountains, Lower California.

[322.1.] **Geotrygon montana** (LINN.).**Ruddy Quail-dove.***Columba montana* LINN. S. N. ed. 10, I, 1758, 163.*Geotrygon montana* BONAP. Consp. I, 1850, 72.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

HAB. Tropical America in general, including West Indies, north to Cuba and Eastern Mexico; accidental at Key West, Florida. (Cf. SCOTT, Auk, VI, April, 1889, 160, 161; July, 1889, 246.)

394 b. **Dryobates pubescens oreæcus** BATCH.**Batchelder's Woodpecker.***Dryobates pubescens oreæcus* BATCH. Auk, VI, July, 1889, 253.

[B 77, part, C 299a, part, R 361a, part, C 441, part.]

HAB. Rocky Mountain region of United States.

## FAMILY COTINGIDÆ. THE COTINGAS.

GENUS **Platypsaris** SCLATER.*Platypsaris* SCL. P. Z. S. 1857, 72 (ex BONAP., 1854, = *nomen nudum*). Type, *Pachyrhamphus latirostris* BP.441.1. **Platypsaris albiventris** (LAWR.).**Xantus's Becard.***Hadrostomus albiventris* LAWR. Ann. Lyc. N. Y. VIII, 1867, 475.*Platypsaris albiventris* RIDGW. Man. N. Am. B. 1887, 325.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

HAB. Western and Southern Mexico, north to Southern Arizona.

469.1. **Empidonax griseus** BREWST.**Gray Flycatcher.***Empidonax griseus* BREWST. Auk, VI, April, 1889, 87.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

HAB. Lower California and portions of Sonora; Arizona?

481 b. **Aphelocoma californica obscura** ANTHONY.**Belding's Jay.***Aphelocoma californica obscura* ANTHONY, Proc. Cal. Ac. Sci. 2d ser. II, Oct. 11, 1889, 75.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

HAB. San Pedro Mountains, Lower California.

571.1. **Junco townsendi** ANTHONY.**Townsend's Junco.***Junco townsendi* ANTHONY, Proc. Cal. Ac. Sci. 2d. ser. II, Oct. 11, 1889, 76.

[B—, C—, R—, C—.]

HAB. San Pedro Mountains, Lower California.

583 a. **Melospiza lincolni striata** BREWST.**Forbush's Sparrow.***Melospiza lincolni striata* BREWST. Auk, VI, April, 1889, 89.[B 368, *part*, C 167, *part*, R 234, *part*, C 242, *part*.]

HAB. British Columbia.

611 a. **Progne subis hesperia** BREWST.**Western Martin.***Progne subis hesperia* BREWST. Auk, VI, April, 1889, 92.[B 231, *part*, C 117, *part*, R 152, *part*, C 165, *part*.]

HAB. California (Ojai Valley) and Lower California.

681 b. **Geothlypis trichas ignota** CHAPM.**Florida Yellow-throat.***Geothlypis trichas ignota* CHAPM. Auk, VII, Jan., 1890, 11.[B 170, *part*, C 97, *part*, R 122, *part*, C 141, *part*.]

HAB. Florida, north to Southern Georgia.

718 b. **Thryothorus ludovicianus lomitensis** SENN.**Lomita Wren.***Thryothorus ludovicianus lomitensis* SENN. Auk, VII, Jan., 1890, 58.[B 265, *part*, C 47, *part*, R 60, *part*, C 68, *part*.]

HAB. Southeastern Texas.

730 a. **Sitta pygmæa leuconucha** ANTHONY.**White-naped Nuthatch.***Sitta pygmæa leuconucha* ANTHONY, Proc. Cal. Ac. Sci. 2d. ser. II, Oct. 11, 1889, 77.[B 281, *part*, C 41, *part*, R 54, *part*, C 61, *part*.]

HAB. San Pedro Mountains, Lower California.

751 a. **Polioptila cærulea obscura** RIDGW.**Western Gnatcatcher.***Polioptila cærulea obscura* RIDGW. Proc. U. S. Nat. Mus. V, March 21, 1883, 535, foot-note.[B 282 *part*, C 23, *part*, R 27, *part*, C 36, *part*.]

HAB. California, Arizona, and Western Mexico.

## II. ELIMINATIONS.

15. (Hypothetical List, p. 353). **Buteo fuliginosus** SCL.  
**Little Black Hawk.**

This has been conclusively shown to be a melanistic phase of *B. brachyurus* VIEILL. (Cf. SCOTT, Auk, VI, July, 1889, pp. 243-245, and RIDGW., Auk, VII, Jan., 1890, p. 90.)

## III. CHANGES OF NOMENCLATURE.

211. **Rallus longirostris crepitans** (GMEL.). This becomes**Rallus crepitans** GMEL.*Rallus crepitans* GMEL. S. N. I. 1788, 713; SENNETT, Auk, VI, April, 1889, pp. 163, 165.

211 *a.* **Rallus longirostris saturatus** HENSH. This becomes

**Rallus crepitans saturatus** (HENSH.).

*Rallus crepitans saturatus* SENNETT, Auk, VI, April, 1889, pp. 164, 166.

211 *b.* **Rallus longirostris scottii** SENN. This becomes

211.1. **Rallus scottii** (SENN.).

*Rallus scottii* SENNETT, Auk, VI, April, 1889, pp. 165, 166.

469. **Empidonax obscurus** (SWAINS.). This becomes

**Empidonax wrightii** BAIRD.

*Empidonax wrightii* BAIRD, B. N. Am. 1858, 200 (in text).  
(Cf. BREWST., Auk, VI, April, 1889, p. 89.)

555. **Zonotrichia intermedia** RIDGW. This becomes

554 *a.* **Zonotrichia leucophrys intermedia** RIDGW.

Satisfactory evidence of the intergradation with *Z. leucophrys* of both this and the following has been seen by the Committee.  
(Cf., RIDGWAY, Auk, VII, Jan. 1890, 96.)

556. **Zonotrichia gambeli** (NUTT.). This becomes

554 *b.* **Zonotrichia leucophrys gambeli** (NUTT.).

*Zonotrichia leucophrys* var. *gambeli* COUES, Key N. Am. Bds. 1872, 145.

Cf. RIDGWAY, Auk, VII, Jan. 1890, 96.

#### IV. SPECIES AND SUBSPECIES CONSIDERED AS NOT ENTITLED TO RECOGNITION.

*Dryobates pubescens fumidus* MAYNARD (Ornithologist and Oölogist, Apr. 1889, 58).

This was unanimously considered by the Committee to be a synonym of *Picus gairdnerii* Aud.

*Cyanocitta stelleri litoralis* [sic] MAYNARD (Ornithologist and Oölogist, Apr. 1889, 59).

This was unanimously rejected by the Committee, as being based on unstable characters, the same difference being observable, as an individual variation, in all the geographical races of this species. (Cf. CHAPMAN, Auk, VII, Jan. 1890, 91.)

*Geothlypis trichas roscoe* (AUD.) HASBROUCK, Auk, VI, April, 1889, 167, 168.

Rejected on the ground that *Sylvia roscoe* of Audubon is a synonym of *G. trichas* (Linn.), the Mississippi valley bird being not sufficiently different from that of the Atlantic coast to merit subspecific separation. The birds described by Mr. Hasbrouck belong to the Florida race, recently named by Mr. Chapman *G. trichas ignota*, Mr. Hasbrouck's error (for which he was not wholly responsible) being in identifying his birds with *Sylvia roscoe* Aud.

*Sialia mexicana anabelæ* ANTHONY (Proc. Cal. Ac. Sci. 2d ser. II, Oct., 1889, 79.)

Characters deemed not sufficiently constant.

Final action on the following was deferred, owing to lack of evidence respecting their status.

*Turdus sequoiensis* BELDING, Proc. Cal. Ac. Sci. 2d ser. II, June 11, 1889.)

550 a. *Ammodramus maritimus peninsulæ* ALLEN, vs. *Ammodramus peninsulæ*. (Cf. SCOTT, Auk, VI, Oct., 1889, 322.)

611.1. *Progne cryptoleuca* BAIRD, vs. *Progne subis cryptoleuca*. (Cf. SCOTT, Auk, VI, Oct., 1889, 325.)



## SEVENTH CONGRESS OF THE AMERICAN ORNITHOLOGISTS' UNION.

THE SEVENTH CONGRESS of the American Ornithologists' Union was held at the American Museum of Natural History, New York City, Nov. 12-15, 1889, the President in the Chair. The meeting was attended by twenty Active Members and thirty-two Associate Members.